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ABSTRACT

This handbook was created to serve as a guide for all programs. It describes mentor roles, responsibilities, and successful individuals engaged in one-to-one relationships in mentoring programs. It describes mentor roles, responsibilities, and successful strategies and techniques designed to assist mentors in their work as role models and trusted friends. The ideas and sample forms contained in the handbook are based on the Mentor Program in Norwalk (Connecticut), a program that began in 1986 between one company and one school. Today, every elementary and middle school in Norwalk is involved in mentoring relationships with adult volunteers from the community. As a result, students are improving in self-esteem, attendance, and the desire to stay in school, and dropout problems are being prevented at an early age. Specific advice is given for beginning a mentor program, and the roles and responsibilities of a good mentor are detailed. Suggestions are also given for helping children read and write, with particular tips for working with elementary school students. Nine sample forms for use in a mentor program are provided. (Author/SLD)

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